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Hongkong, 1st September, 1904. [a2866]

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Hongkong, 18th January, 1905. [a275]

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Hongkong, 17th January, 1905. [a282]

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Hongkong, 31st October, 1902. [a248]

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Hongkong, 7th October, 1904. [a49]

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Hongkong, 3rd February, 1905. [a37]

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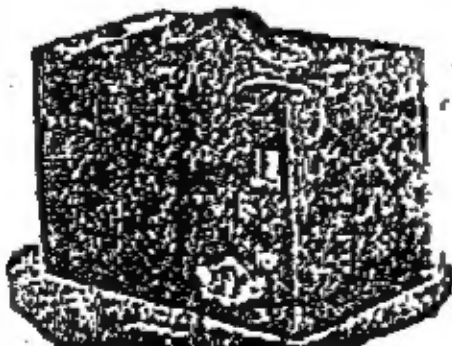
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Hongkong, 2nd February, 1905. [a78]

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Hongkong, 18th May, 1903. [a21]

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Sui-ow, 8th June, 1904. [a216]

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[a514]

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Hongkong, 10th June 1903. [a506]

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[a2781]

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Hongkong, 21st March, 1903. [a22]

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Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

No anonymous signed communications that have already appeared in our papers will be inserted.

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MARRIAGE.

On 2nd February, at Shanghai, GEORGE PAINE, to MARGARET AGNES ROBERTS.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VUEX ROAD CL
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1905.

Such information as may be gleaned by a reading of the report of the Hongkong Benevolent Society's meeting impels us slightly to modify our opinion of the recent charitable proposal of His Excellency the Governor. The assumption was—and it was not ours, but Sir MATTHEW NATHAN'S—that the Society invited to take up the proposal had "better opportunities for making the scheme known, and for getting people to become guarantors." This idea we can no longer entertain, after the official exposure of the existing claims upon the Society, and the unhappy confession with regard to its means to meet them. In view of this, it seems extraordinary that a Society, with a burden already more than it can carry comfortably, should undertake to give part of its influence, admittedly not great enough to make its own path smooth, to the task of obtaining subscriptions for another branch of charitable enterprise. It is useless to insist that the subscribers are only waiting for some channel into which to pour their generosity. His Excellency's letter expressly describes their new duty as that of "getting people to become guarantors"; and we have it on the authority of His Lordship the Bishop, who presumably has his finger on the pulse of philanthropic Hongkong, that this would be an onerous duty, that, in fact, the generosity of Hongkong endureth only for a season, and that in time the guarantors

would "diminish in numbers." However, the struggling Benevolent Society was not dismayed, and though its resolution was couched in an unexpected form, it has agreed to try for a year. With its shoulder to the wheel of its own vehicle, it is, as it were, reaching out a hand to help pull along the handcart of the Seamen's Home.

The general impression left with us after reading the lengthy report is concerned with the adaptability of various professional men to practical politics. *Inter alia*, the value of Judges and the utility of Bishops seems to be under discussion. This is not a polite thing to say, but, as Sir H. S. BAKER put it, there is no use in mincing matters. It must be admitted that, as the Judge also said, nearly all the speakers wandered away from the real question. No one wandered further, it seems to us, than the Rt. Rev. Bishop HOARE, some of whose *obiter dicta* startled us exceedingly. According to him, it was a weak point that the scheme should put upon individuals a responsibility which ought to rest upon the whole community. When in leisure moments we permit ourselves to ponder the usual teachings of bishops, one phrase comes uppermost. It relates to one's duty to one's neighbour, and there is a sort of implication that this duty is more of a privilege than a responsibility. Has there been a change of tenets, or is His Lordship mistaken in suggesting that our duty to our neighbour has now become the duty of the Government? Another remark he made referred to the Rev. J. H. FRANCE, who "came here to be a clergyman," and not to assist philanthropic movements. We have a lively admiration for the Rev. J. H. FRANCE's truer conception of his duty as a follower of the great Philanthropist; and cannot imagine him complaining that he is "as hard worked as any man in the Colony." However, it was perhaps a naturally professional view for a Bishop to take, and we need not take the words too seriously. Governments are proverbially hard to move, and we never felt so glad of it as when we reflected that even a Church dignitary would experience difficulty in drawing the Colonial Government into legislative bypaths where it has no right to be. The summing up—we cannot resist the temptation to call it so—of the CHIEF JUSTICE was as business-like as the others were otherwise. As it was exactly in line with our own previous arguments, we feel flattered. The present position of affairs is on the whole satisfactory. There may not be so many guarantors as the GOVERNOR and the Benevolent Society hope, but on the other hand, if the cases be properly sifted, the demands upon the new fund will be commensurately few.

The Weihsui Gold Mining Co. has decided upon reconstruction, and has appointed new directors.

Owing to the indisposition of Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Mr. J. H. Kemp is now Acting Second Police Magistrate at the Police Court.

Edward Tait was fined \$20 by Mr. H. B. J. Gompertz at the Police Court yesterday for assaulting two German sailors at the Occidental Hotel, Kowloon, on Tuesday night last.

Corinthian Yacht Club members will race their boats over course No. 27 on Sunday for the International Cup presented by Mr. Hume and secondary prizes given by Mr. Denison.

This evening, at the Union Church Literary Club, Mr. J. Dyar Ball will lecture on "Four Thousand Years of the Chinese." The President, the Rev. C. H. Hickling, will preside.

Private F. Kirby, of "G" Coy. 2nd Royal West Kent Regt., at Murray Barracks, asks us to mention that he is willing to meet Christie of Hongkong in a ten or fifteen round boxing contest, on usual conditions.

The block calendar sent by the firm of A. Chazalon has a remarkably pretty picture for background. It is an excellent reproduction of a painting by a French artist, the subject a pretty woman's face in profile.

Last year the Philippines Insular Government deported seventy-four "beachcombers," most of whom undoubtedly came this way. Seventeen "worthy destitute citizens of the United States" were sent home in Government transports.

The fourteenth case of plague was recorded on the 4th instant, four cases having occurred that week. The return for the subsequent four days gives two more. One European is down with scarlet fever, and five with smallpox. There are seven cases of smallpox altogether.

This extraordinary statement was telegraphed to Europe by "Laffan." Relatives of Mr. Conger, United States Minister at Peking, state that letters received from China intimate that the Empress Dowager, through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Conger, has become a convert to Christian Science, and will soon publicly announce her conversion. That is indeed a case of going from bad to worse; but probably the story is untrue.

The departure of H. M. S. *Vergennes* has been postponed.

The Fleet boxing contests commence at Kowloon this evening, and will be continued on Friday and Saturday evenings.

The oil steamer *Balown*, seven days out from Shanghai, has put into Manila to have some repairs made to her machinery.

Mr. J. Reide, the honorary secretary and treasurer of the Corinthian Yacht Club, has favoured us with a neatly bound copy of the rules &c. of that club.

Messrs. Barretto & Co., agents for the Wine Growers Supply Co., have asked for our opinion of a sample of their "Melrose" whisky. It seems a high-class article, with a quite satisfactory flavour.

The French Journal *Officiel* publishes a law prohibiting the insurance against death of children under twelve years of age. This law does not apply to insurance contracted with a view to ensuring the reimbursement in case of death, of premiums disbursed to secure the payment of a annuity during the lifetime of a child.

The hearing of the charge preferred by Chief Detective Inspector Hanson against an Indian for keeping a gaming establishment on a wharf near Wing Lok Street was continued before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz at the Police Court yesterday. After hearing further evidence, His Worship decided that the game of "Bos Bos" was not a gambling game under the Ordinance, wherefore he dismissed the defendant, also the second Indian who was charged with frequenting the establishment.

An interesting experiment is being tried by the authorities in Assam of rearing silkworms after the method which is followed in Kashmir, i.e., by the importation in the autumn from France of the seed of the European mulberry moth. The experiment was tried in Shillong and Kohima and was entirely successful. The cocoons were valued by experts in France, Calcutta and Kashmir, who pronounced the silk to be of fine quality. The French export a silk merchant of Alais, valued the cocoons, if properly dried, at the high figure of about Rs. 80 per maund.

Probably mindful of the fact that the fleet championship boxing contest was to begin yesterday, blue-jacket James Elgood on Tuesday night last entered Messrs. Tak Cheong and Company's establishment in Queen's Road, and asked an assistant to show him some boxing gloves. He chose two pairs that suited his fancy, and marched off without paying the price. He was placed before Mr. Gompertz at the Police Court yesterday morning on a charge of larceny. His Worship remanded the case until to-day, so that he might learn defendant's previous conduct from an officer of his ship.

The *Cigar and Tobacco World* says:—Of smokers, the Chinaman goes to the greatest trouble and obtains the least result. He carries a little box about twice the size of an ordinary silver cigarette case. This is half-filled with water. In one end is a removable tube to serve as a pipe; at the other end is the pipe stem. First of all he removes the tube, and blows through it to remove all blockage. Then he fumbles through his awkward clothes, searching for tobacco, and produces a bit of rag in which it is wrapped. Carefully he extracts a wad of tobacco, puts away his rag, and slowly plugs the tube, which holds, perhaps, the tenth part of an ordinary cigarette. But he never has any matches. So he has to borrow or hunt out a brown paper stem and light it—it glows for a long time and can be pulled into flame again; he gives a long draw, slowly enjoying it to its full extent for the moment or two, then back again through the old routine to find his tobacco, fill his pipe, and get it lighted. It may be very irksome, but still he enjoys it.

ARMED ROBBERY AT PO HING FONG.

An Hing, Ho Shing and Mak Saag were again placed before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz at the Police Court yesterday to answer the charge of holding up the inmates of house No. 8 Po Hing Fong with offensive weapons, and robbing them of jewellery and clothing to the value of \$3,400, on the 30th January last. Chief Detective Inspector Hanson prosecuted.

An Chan, one of the amas of the house, stated—Defendant on entering the house, said they had come to repair the water pipe. The second defendant then said "Let us make a start." The second and third defendants each had a knife. One of the defendants said to the other each and myself—"If you make a noise, I will chop you." The first defendant tied our hands behind us, and gagged us. While the first defendant gagged us, the other two went out of the kitchen. I was bound and gagged for about a quarter of an hour. The other two men then called out and the first defendant went away leaving us both gagged and bound. Immediately after they went away I left the kitchen, and with the other amas went to the stair door. We thought defendants were coming back, so held hard against the door. The people outside said they were Police, so we let them in. They brought back the defendants. I saw the second defendant at three o'clock that afternoon. He entered the house saying he had come to repair a waterpipe. While there, he asked the mistress where the master had gone. She said—"He has gone out." He then went away. After the men had gone on the night of the robbery, I missed a quantity of my jewellery. I found on entering my room, that everything was in a state of confusion.

Other witnesses corroborated the evidence of the last witness, and the case was adjourned until this morning.

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

MR. LEE'S SPEECH.

LONDON, 6th February.

With reference to the speech of Mr. Arthur H. Lee, M.P., Civil Lord of the Admiralty, in which he was reported to have stated that it was not so much required of Great Britain that she should keep her eyes on France in the Mediterranean as she had to look with more anxiety, though no fear, to the North Sea, that was the reason why the fleets had been redistributed, and that if war was declared the British Navy would get a blow in first, Mr. Lee now writes that he was incorrectly reported; that what he actually said was that Great Britain must assume that all foreign naval powers were possible enemies, and that owing to the growth of these naval powers, and these being more numerous than hitherto, Great Britain has to keep an anxious eye, not only on the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, but the North Sea also.

The speech has caused a sensation in Germany, and the papers are angrily demanding an explanation. The *Standard's* Berlin correspondent learns that unless Lord Lansdowne promptly repudiates the speech, Germany will ask for an explanation.

FINLAND.

LONDON, 6th February.

M. Johnson, procurator of the Senate at Helsinki, has been assassinated, and his son wounded by a man disguised as an officer.

THE WAR.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

A NEW RUSSIAN LOAN.

LONDON, 6th February.

Negotiations have been completed for the issue of a five per cent Russian loan in Paris of nearly a milliard of francs.

THE SINGAPORE DOCKS.

With regard to the expropriation of the Tanjong Pagar Docks at Singapore by the Colonial Government, the *Star* says:—The significance of this action of the Government will be understood only by those acquainted with the Straits Settlements, the laid announcement conveying nothing to the general reader; but it may be stated that this Company owns the graving docks at Tanjong Pagar and Keppel Harbour, with shipbuilding yards and machine shops, together with wharves covering over two and a half miles of the foreshore. There are, in all, no fewer than five graving docks, four built of granite and one of concrete. The largest dock is 512 ft. long and 63 ft. wide at the entrance, with a depth on the sill of 27 ft. at highest spring tides. The first dock was built in 1868. Several thousands of native workmen, chiefly Chinese, are employed in the docking, establishing, and repairing of the fleet. We believe it was the intention of the Admiralty to build a graving dock of its own at Singapore (as it is doing at Hongkong) and to create there a Naval establishment of its own; and Mr. Matthews, the well-known engineer, recently visited the Colony to investigate the local conditions. The power to expropriate the Company is probably vested in the Government of the Crown Colony under the local ordinance. It is easy to understand why the Government should resume its fore-shore rights; but it is not so easy to understand how the docking establishments are to be controlled, and what facilities the general shipping interests will be accorded by the authorities.

ANNUAL MOBILIZATION.

The annual mobilization of troops took place yesterday, when the soldiers of the respective regiments in garrison were assigned to various posts for the defence of the Colony. The forces were mustered at Belchers and Stonecutters towards the Green Island Pass, and at Lyemum and Devil's Port at the various entrances to Hong Kong Harbour; also at the various other defences. A good deal of firing was carried out; and destroyers with search lights were stationed at different points. The following warships were at sea:—*Sulley*, *Andromeda*, *Adria*, *Iphigenia*, and numerous torpedo boats. The Volunteers were stationed on the southern side of the Island. The sides of Pokfulam Road, Aberdeen Road, the new road round the island, Mount Kellet Road and the Peak roads were studded with tents. Walking along in the darkness one was constantly startled by the cry "Halt—who goes there?" The weather was clear at the base of the hill but somewhat damp. Heavy firing was heard when the attack was made in the early hours of the morning. The manoeuvres were carried out under the direction of Major-General Slade, who is now on a tour inspecting His Majesty's Eastern defences.

HONGKONG CRICKETERS AT SWATOW.

The Hongkong cricketers yesterday returned from Swatow by the Douglas s.s. *Haiching*, after a very pleasant holiday. On arriving at Swatow last Saturday morning the men landed and were put up at various private houses. After breakfast they changed and went to the cricket field. This was in the grounds, described as "an awfully nice place resembling an old country residence," of Mr. Richardson, the Tainan of Messrs. Bradley and Company's branch office. All the ladies of Swatow, a couple of dozen or so, turned out to watch the game. Besides "the usual" refreshments, tea was served on the field at half past four. Play concluded somewhere about five o'clock. After dinner some of the visitors played bowls at the Kialat Club, while others were entertained by their various hosts.

There was a tennis (doubles) tournament on Sunday, and this ended in a win for Messrs. Hancock and Butcher. Those who were not occupied at the tennis courts went out shooting to a place called Sun Lai. The bag was small and mixed. Everyone knocked down a goose, but many were lost.

On Monday this return match was played. It resulted as follows:—

HONGKONG.		SWATOW.	
G. E. Morrell, not out	100	Sullivan, c. Dixon, b. Rutherford	8
W. Dixon, b. Berington	2	Harrison, run out	7
A. Mackenzie, b. Berington	5	Brackstone, c. Gray, b. Hancock	0
N. H. Rutherford, c. Somerville, b. Butcher	14	Anderson, c. Brown, b. Mackenzie	14
H. Hancock, b. Butcher	8	Pogge, b. Rutherford	0
R. B. Horley, R.N., at Willis, b. Hilliard	32	Berington, b. Rutherford	0
J. P. Rogers, c. b. Butcher	4	Willis, c. Hancock, b. Rutherford	3
A. C. Butt, R.M.L.I., not out	23	Currie, hit wkt., b. Hancock	0
Extras	11	Hilliard, c. Hancock, b. Rutherford	1
Total (for 6 wickets) 198		M. Gowan, run out	4
(Innings declared closed)		Wallace, b. Lammert	8
T. C. Gray, G. P. Lammert and A. O. Brown did not bat.		Somerville, c. Brown, b. Hancock	2
		Dupree, not out	10
		Young, b. Mackenzie	0
		Butcher, b. Mackenzie	0
		Extras	16
		Total	73

BOWLING ANALYSIS.		BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
Hilliard	14	O. M. R. W.	
Berington	12	H. Hancock	13 2 30 3
Butcher	12	N. H. Rutherford	9 4 14 5
Sullivan	5	G. P. Lammert	4 2 6 1
Macgowan	1	G. E. Morrell	3 2 2 1
Harrison	2	A. Mackenzie	3 1 5 3
Currie	1	Extras	0

Umpires:—Mr. Frank Smith (Swatow) and Mr. J. W. C. Bonner (H.K.).

The cricketers dined at the Junior Customs Club, where a very jolly evening was spent. There was afterwards a concert at which some of the Hongkong men, including Mr. G. P. Lammert whose singing was particularly appreciated, contributed. Numerous speeches were made.

The first part of Tuesday was spent "recovering," and the steamer left for Hongkong at four o'clock in the afternoon.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST FEBRUARY 1905.	
LEVEL.	1904.
Below overfall	Below overfall
Tyrum	27 ft. 5 in. 21 ft. 9 in.
Bywash	28 ft. 4 in.
Pokfulam	31 ft. 10 in. 21 ft. 8 in.
Wongchickong	23 ft. 9 in. 44 ft. 0 in.

STORAGE GALLONS.	
1904.	1905.
Tyrum	192,460,000
Bywash	225,000,000
Pokfulam	6,160,000
Wongchickong	7,882,000
Total	206,002,000

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

1904.		1905.	
Consumption	80,761,000	122,428,000	gallons
Estimated population	222,100	226,900	
Consumption per head per day	11.7	17.4	gallons

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

1904.		1905.	
Consumption	14,481,000	13,453,000	gallons
Estimated population	65,900	71,650	
Consumption per head per day	7.0	6.0	gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Hongkong Observatory yesterday issued the following report:—

On the 8th at 11.45 a.m. The barometer has risen throughout China and in Formosa and the Philippines and falls in Japan and over the neighbouring portion of the Pacific.

An area of high pressure is again formed in the interior and north of China and gradients are becoming steep upon the east coast. Strong N.E. monsoon will be met with in the Formosa Channel and to the northward of it, and fresh to strong N.E. winds in the northern part of the China Sea.

Forecast:—Fresh N. to N.E. winds, overcast, heavy, some drizzling rain.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A GRUMBLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

3rd February.

SIR,—Since the last occurrence of burglars visiting the Bellios Terrace in broad daylight which is still vivid in your reader's mind, I perceive that no notice has ever been taken by the Police to keep a strict vigilance in that locality.

It appears that yesterday evening between 7.30 (and 8 o'clock) a dead body was casually discovered by a "barren" living in one of these houses. Now, how could that dead body have been placed just at the foot of the steps and allowed to remain there unnoticed by the police? I am at a loss to understand.

The place which I allude to where the corpse was found is in a corner of the Lower Bellios Terrace, where the chair coolies stationed there frequently commit nuisances, another point to which attention should be paid.—Yours, &c., MICROBIO.

AN EARNEST REQUEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—Will you be kind enough to permit me, through the medium of your columns, to call the attention of His Excellency the Governor to the ridiculously small number of days in the year observed as holidays here in contrast to those enjoyed by other Crown Colonies and settlements in the Far East generally. The regular annual holidays here may be briefly summarised on an average as follows:—

New Year Day	1
China New Year	2
Race Holidays	13
Good Friday	1
Easter Monday	1
White Monday	1
First day in August	1
King's Birthday	1
Regatta Holidays	1
Xmas Day	1
Boxing Day	1
Total	23 days

I have not taken into account Saturday afternoons, which are utterly disregarded by a certain section of the mercantile community, and exist nominally with the rest, whilst occasionally, when such a day as China New Year for instance falls on a Saturday, as was the case this year, an extra day or two is thrown in, so that the actual number of days on which business is suspended may be roughly reckoned at 15 days or even less. This hardship is further accentuated by the Banks and Insurance Offices closing on half holidays such as Race or Regatta days at an hour which is too late to render the enjoyment of the holiday possible. If we compare the existing state of things here with conditions prevailing elsewhere it will be seen that, considering the flourishing condition the colony is in, and the importance it relatively holds, we are far behind the times. I would also respectfully point out to His Excellency that the present Holiday Ordinance was enacted as far back as 1875, that the conditions then and now will not bear any useful comparison, and that the time has come for the existing Ordinance to be so modified and amended as to allow for a larger number of days under less stringent conditions.—Yours, etc.,

HOLIDAY.

FOOTBALL.

The following have been chosen to play for the Hongkong Football Club in a Rugby match against a Naval team to be played at Happy Valley this (Thursday) afternoon:—

J. A. F. Bourchier, back; J. Thomson, Lieut. Hunsay, G. D. Bateman and A. S. Kempthorne, three-quarters; H. Soper and A. B. de Vaulle, halves; P. W. Goldring, Lieut. Banking, Lieut. Holden, A. Boyd, J. Harman, J. C. Steer, D. B. Murray and H. F. Chard (Captain), forwards.

Kick-off is at a quarter to five.

WOLVES IN CHINA.

The fact that Mr. T. R. Jernigan shot a couple of wolves at the lakes beyond Ningpo on Thursday morning, the 14th inst. is an event, in the department of sport that comes as a great surprise. From time to time we have heard fairy tales of the wild animals that exist the other side of the mountains that surround the lakes, even of the tigers that are in existence at what appears to be the back of beyond, but they never seem to be where the foreigners are. However, on this occasion they have actually been bagged. The place was Mr. Jernigan found the quarry was at the base of the mountain. His boy, who was walking about twenty yards behind, carrying a heavy 12 bore gun loaded with No. 2 shot, first saw the wolves, and called loudly to Mr. Jernigan. Just as he turned one of the wolves dashed and he shot her dead with a light 12 bore loaded with No. 4 shot. The boy then ran hurriedly to his master calling out that there was another, and just as he came up, Mr. Jernigan took from his hands the gun he carried and immediately after the male wolf, a very big one, dashed by, and he brought him to the ground stone dead before he had got twenty yards. The gun with which he shot the first wolf was a very light 12 bore and he fired both barrels. To make sure, he had a repeat with regard to the second wolf as he had a very vicious look and both barrels from the heavy gun did their duty. The wolves were not thirty steps apart when picked up and both were killed instantly. Evidently Mr. Jernigan's eye and hand have not lost their cunning, for the quickness and accuracy of his aim under such unusual circumstances must have been excellent, and it must not be forgotten that such an encounter must have required a deal of presence of mind, for wolves are not met with every day, and it is quite a question whether, with some who visit the lakes, presence of mind would not have been wanting, and absence of body been the first consideration. The Chinese from the district surrounding the scene of operations turned out and thanked Mr. Jernigan for having killed two animals that had caused a deal of havoc in the neighbourhood.—Sport and Gossip.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

The seventy-ninth report of the court of directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Saturday, the 18th February, at noon, reads:—To the Proprietors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Gentlemen.—The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 31st December, 1904.

The net profit for that period, including \$1,492,554.10, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amount to \$4,745,544.10.

The directors recommend the transfer of \$1,000,000 from the profit and loss account to credit of the silver reserve fund, which fund will then stand at \$8,000,000.

They also recommend writing off bank premises amounting to the sum of \$200,000.

After making these transfers and deducting remuneration to directors there remains for appropriation \$3,545,544.10, out of which the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of one pound and ten shillings sterling per share, which at 46 shares \$533,333.33, and a bonus of one pound sterling per share, which at 46 will absorb \$555,555.55.

The difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend and bonus are declared, and 1/11 9/16, the rate of the day, amounts to \$1,148,246.42.

The balance \$1,193,103.75 to be carried to new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.
Mr. H. E. Tomkins has been elected Chairman for the year 1905 and Mr. H. A. W. Slade deputy Chairman.

Mr. A. J. Raymond, Mr. H. E. Tomkins and Mr. N. A. Sibbs retire in rotation, but being eligible for re-election, offer themselves accordingly.

AUDITORS.
The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. Hutton Potts and Mr. A. G. Wood, who offer themselves for re-election.

A. J. RAYMOND, Chairman.

The accounts are as follows:—
ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.
31st December, 1904.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Paid-up Capital	10,000,000.00	Reserve Fund	8,000,000.00
Reserve Fund	10,000,000.00	Profit and Loss Account	4,745,544.10
Profit and Loss Account	4,745,544.10	Dividend and Bonus	1,088,888.88
Dividend and Bonus	1,088,888.88	Other Liabilities	1,193,103.75
Other Liabilities	1,193,103.75	Total	25,027,536.73

Current accounts:—
Savings Bank, \$70,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$71,000,000.00

Fixed deposits:—
Savings Bank, \$4,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$5,000,000.00

Bills payable (including drafts on London, Hongkong, and other places):—
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Profit and loss account:
Total, \$4,745,544.10

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Current accounts:—
Savings Bank, \$70,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$71,000,000.00

Fixed deposits:—
Savings Bank, \$4,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$5,000,000.00

Bills payable (including drafts on London, Hongkong, and other places):—
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Profit and loss account:
Total, \$4,745,544.10

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Current accounts:—
Savings Bank, \$70,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$71,000,000.00

Fixed deposits:—
Savings Bank, \$4,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$5,000,000.00

Bills payable (including drafts on London, Hongkong, and other places):—
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Profit and loss account:
Total, \$4,745,544.10

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Current accounts:—
Savings Bank, \$70,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$71,000,000.00

Fixed deposits:—
Savings Bank, \$4,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$5,000,000.00

Bills payable (including drafts on London, Hongkong, and other places):—
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Profit and loss account:
Total, \$4,745,544.10

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Current accounts:—
Savings Bank, \$70,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$71,000,000.00

Fixed deposits:—
Savings Bank, \$4,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$5,000,000.00

Bills payable (including drafts on London, Hongkong, and other places):—
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Profit and loss account:
Total, \$4,745,544.10

Liability on bills of exchange:
Total, \$1,000,000.00

Current accounts:—
Savings Bank, \$70,000,000.00
Gold, \$1,000,000.00
Total, \$71,000,000.00

THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND
MACAO STEAM-BOAT CO., LD.

The report of the Board of Directors to the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders to be held at the office of the Company, on Tuesday, 14th February, at 12 o'clock noon, reads:—

The directors beg to submit to the shareholders the report and statement of accounts for the half-year ending 31st December last.

After paying running expenses, salaries, premium of insurance, repairs and all other outgoings, there remains, including \$10,352.85 brought forward from last account, the sum of \$100,160.88 at credit of profit and loss account.

From this amount the directors recommend that a dividend of one dollar per share or \$80,000 be paid to shareholders, leaving a balance of \$20,160.88 to be carried forward to next account.

The adverse conditions of the trade mentioned in the last report have continued during the six months under review and there is nothing of special interest in connection with the working of the steamers to comment upon.

Mr. H. E. Tomkins resigned his seat at the Board in consequence of his intended departure from the Colony, and Mr. F. Salinger was nominated by the directors to fill the vacancy subject to confirmation by the shareholders at this meeting.

The retiring auditors, Messrs. A. O. D. Gordon and W. H. Potts offer themselves for re-election.

W. J. GREYSON, Chairman.

The accounts are as follows:—
31st Dec. 1904. ASSETS.

Value of steamers, boats, and engines	\$ 1,000,000.00
Value of property at Canton, Wharves and Hongkong	137,816.77
Value of spare gear	15,000.00
Value of furniture	2,000.00
Value of shares in public companies	63,710.00
Value of Chinese bonds	1,031.48
Loans on mortgage	54,000.00
80,000 shares	2,300.25
Sundry debtors	11,136.63
Total	\$2,209,968.74

31st Dec. 1904. LIABILITIES.

Amount of capital, 80,000 shares of \$15 each, fully paid up	\$1,200,000.00
Amount at credit of depreciation and insurance fund	600,000.00
Amount at credit of equalization of dividend fund	250,000.00
Amount at credit of investment fund	15,000.00
Unclaimed dividends	5,785.01
Sundry creditors	39,236.39
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, loan, current account	42,344.12
Amount at credit of profit and loss account	100,160.88
Total	\$2,209,968.74

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.
31st Dec. 1904. Dr.

To amount paid for repairs to steamers	\$ 13,391.22
To directors and auditors' fees	4,750.00
Balance to be appropriated, viz:—	
Dividend of \$1 per share on 80,000 shares	\$80,000.00
To be carried forward to new account	26,100.88
Total	\$124,232.10

31st Dec. 1904. Cr.

By amount brought forward from last account	\$ 15,362.85
By earnings of steamers	65,000.00
By interest on investments	42,810.00
By transfer from	112.00
Total	\$124,232.10

DEPRECIATION AND INSURANCE FUND.
31st Dec. 1904. Dr.

To balance	\$ 600,000.00
30th Dec. 1904. Cr.	
By amount at credit	600,000.00
Total	\$1,200,000.00

EQUALIZATION OF DIVIDEND FUND.
31st Dec. 1904. Dr.

To balance	\$ 250,000.00
30th Dec. 1904. Cr.	
By amount at credit	250,000.00
Total	\$500,000.00

THE BALTIC FLEET.

Our Russian contemporary, the "Novoye Vremya," is much exercised in its mind over the way in which Admiral Rozhdestvensky's fleet is being shadowed by British cruisers, which, it believes, do so for the purpose of keeping Japanese agents informed of the movements of that force. The "Novoye Vremya" may be right in its facts, but it is wrong in its inference. If British cruisers are shadowing the Baltic fleet, it is not because they wish to give information to the Japanese, but because our fleet has shown that it is not safe to leave it wandering about the high seas alone. We do not know when the unimpaired commander may begin to "see things" again, and it is sometimes best that the policeman should be handy when a person liable to homicidal mania is running amok when it gets into a crowd, with shipping which look to us for protection, and English opinion would not stand a repetition of the North Sea incident. We feel tolerably certain that Admiral Rozhdestvensky and his officers will not make another of these unfortunate mistakes which British warships are present to explain and correct. Their presence may, as the "Novoye Vremya" says, be subjecting the personnel of the squadron to "severe nervous strain," but we must be permitted to point out that the absolute lack of any explanation of its previous action compels this country to treat it as irresponsible, and to take measures accordingly. British cruisers are free to shadow this fleet, partly to protect peaceful traders, and partly for strategic reasons of our own. The first Naval Power is not going to allow a fleet of foreign battleships to patrol unwatched waters in which such battleships are not usually seen, and in which she has vastly predominant interests.—*Globe*.

An agreement has been signed between the Government of the United States and of the Republic of Panama, establishing free trade between the Republic and the Canal Zone. The ports of Ancon and Cristobal, however, are open only for goods in transit and for use in the construction of the Canal. Merchandise entering the Republic or the Canal Zone for consumption is to be dutiable at the rate of 10 per cent (gold) ad valorem. The agreement further provides that masters of sanitation and quarantine in the ports of Panama and Colon are to be under the control of the United States Government. The Republic of Panama agrees to reduce its port charges and its postal rates, and to introduce a gold standard.

PORT ARTHUR THE SYMBOL

"Port Arthur," says the *Times*, "is more than a fortress. It is a symbol." That is so: the writer has crystallized the whole significance of Port Arthur in two syllables. Port Arthur, then, is a symbol of what?

We shall see that it is the place of its history since that astute old Chinaman, Li Hung Chang, perceived the strategic value of the site, and set to work to fortify it. That was in 1870, and ever since, Port Arthur has been a bone of contention and an object of desire.

In 1894, when Japan was fighting to destroy Chinese influence (as she is now fighting to destroy Russian influence) in Korea, her troops stormed the great fortress in a single morning, without even a preliminary bombardment, and the Gibraltar of the Far East was hers for the first time—but not for long. A European Triple Alliance robbed her of the fruit of her victory; Russia, Germany, and France "advised" her, in the interests of peace, to abandon the territory that China had ceded to her. Japan submitted, but she could not do so with rage in her heart. But she neither forgot nor forgave. And what was England doing—England, with her enormous commercial stake in the Far East, and her prestige as an Asiatic Power to maintain? England did nothing; she never raised a finger; she just existed. Then the great game of chess began. The three Powers had pretended to be acting merely in the interests of peace in the Far East. They had lied. Each of them had demanded her price from China, and claimed it. France got a considerable "rectification" of frontier, and concessions for mines and railways; the "mailed fist" grabbed Shanghai; Russia obtained the right to run a railway down to Port Arthur, and to anchor her fleet there. Russia, then, had her mouth full of the "rectification" of frontier, and concessions for mines and railways; the "mailed fist" grabbed Shanghai; Russia obtained the right to run a railway down to Port Arthur, and to anchor her fleet there.

Port Arthur was the symbol—the outward and visible sign—of that triumph of Muscovite cunning and bluff over British sluggishness and inability, and the forward march of our sea power. But all that time, Japan was quietly preparing to win back the prize which we had allowed her to be despoiled. Very silently, very patiently, she waited, watched, and worked, because her hour was not yet come—but it was coming. It has come now. To-day her flag floats once more over the great fortress, that fortress which is now, as in 1894, the symbol of her power to do as she pleases with her own, because it is the pledge of her national safety, of her very existence as a nation. The Triple Alliance of 1894-5 looks very foolish this morning; but who shall say what schemes are not hatching in the Chancelleries of the Continent? The permanent establishment of the Japanese at Port Arthur means the death blow not only to Russia, but to other aggression against China. How do we know that, whenever terms of peace come to be discussed, a second attempt will not be made to rob Japan of the spoils of victory? This time, however, we shall be bound to her by an alliance which is avowedly based upon the fact that Japanese and British policy in the Far East is "identical." Are we prepared to do our duty to ourselves by doing our duty to our allies? Or are we halting between two opinions, and shaking in our shoes for fear lest circumstances should compel us to make a firm stand? We have not been very profitable to the Japanese hitherto; we have given their enemy all the assistance in our power; we have escorted the Baltic Fleet through the Suez Canal after allowing it to coal there, which we refused to allow Sir Edward Seymour to do in the case of the *Plat*. Are we going to do our duty better in the future than we have done in the past? It will not be well for us if we do not. Port Arthur is the symbol to-day, not only of the downfall of Russia in the Far East, but of the future supremacy of Japan. Henceforward our own position in China will depend very largely upon the good will of our ally. They are still our staunch friends; the islands of the East have 100,000,000 of the West, and are prepared to work with them loyally for the development of the vast resources of China. Shall we respond to the appeal? Shall we treat our alliance with them as "an international contract of binding validity," to quote the official phrase, in the spirit as well as in the letter? We owe a great debt of gratitude to Lord Lansdowne for other contracts for us, and we must look to it that we do not throw away the inestimable advantages it confers upon us. Port Arthur is the symbol of the rise of a great Asiatic Island Power that calls to the great European Island Power to share with her a glorious future. Will England answer to the call?—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

Why the American succeeds.

A twenty-months' residence in St. Louis forms the basis of some reflections on the causes of American success. Mr. W. H. Potts, a contributor to the *Times*, 10 attributes the success of the American to his willingness to take risks. An American is not content with one thriving business, but will speculate in another enterprise, or twenty, relying on success in one to compensate for failure in another; whereas the Englishman, with his prejudice against novelty and his horror of failure, runs less risk, but at the same time less chance of a brilliant success.

"I once endeavored to introduce a new machine in England, and offered it on trial to a leading firm in the trade; at no expense to themselves and with no conditions to purchase. They refused on the plea that they already had all the most up-to-date machines. Such a reply from an American firm is inconceivable. Another English firm refused to book orders because they had enough work for two years ahead. An American firm would, I imagine, have risked an extension of plant and a continuation of orders to recoup the outlay. Another risk the American will assume is to sell goods at a loss with a view to create a new market, relying upon the force of habit which leads a customer to return to the established firm to gradually pay an increasing price for it until the sale becomes profitable."—*St. James's Gazette*.

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The Indo-China steamer *Lansing*, from Calcutta and the Straits, left Singapore for this port on the 8th inst. at 6 a.m., and may be expected here on the 14th inst.

The H.A.L. steamer *Idaho*, from Hamburg, left Singapore for this port on the 7th inst., p.m., and may be expected here on the 15th inst.

NAVAL NOTES.

The following items are mostly taken from the *Naval & Military Record*.

The captains who attain the age limit this year are Captains Protheroe, on April 18th; H. L. Fleet, May 1st; Leach, May 15th; Henderson, June 2nd; Cochran, June 22nd; Jones, August 7th; E. J. Fleet, September 22nd; Cherry, December 11th; and Kelly, December 15th. Of these officers, says *The World*, it would seem that very few can be saved for a continuation of services unless something unforeseen should happen to increase considerably the number of flag vacancies.

Although several of the warships in course of construction at contractors' yards are being fitted with storage tanks for liquid fuel, it cannot be said that its utilisation has yet passed the experimental stage. It is true that some vessels now use liquid fuel, but merely as an alternative, and then only for the auxiliary boilers. Gravel oil, with a low flash point, is used for the purpose, and ignition is caused by heated furnace bricks. Its storage presents considerable difficulty, not unattended with danger, and instead of presenting, as coal does, a considerable protection against gun-fire, it would probably accentuate the risks possible by the explosions of shells in the bunkers and tanks.

The Indian troopship *Dufferin*, just completed by Vickers Sons and Maxima at their works, Barrow-in-Furness, is described by *Engineering* as a veritable floating palace. Everything has been done to ensure the comfort of "Tommy Atkins" while on board the vessel, which can attain the high speed of 19 knots. It will carry 1,100 European troops and a special feature is the fitting of square ports on the side of the hull throughout the saloons and cabins. The sanitary arrangements are very complete, the cooking plant is extensive, and the hospitals for troops and women are fitted; in accordance with the latest practice, with cots, electric fans, lamps, kettles, and heaters for sterilisation. A special hospital for the native crew has been similarly fitted. The ship has been designed for use as an auxiliary armed cruiser in time of war, and is adapted to mount 17-in. quick-firing guns and a number of guns of smaller calibre.

The excessive amount of coal consumed in the cruisers of the county class under full steam with forced draught has caused considerable perturbation in the Engineering Departments of the navy. Hitherto, out over three hundred tons of coal per day are burnt under these conditions, and that the extreme height of the funnels induces an excess of draught and a corresponding consumption of coal. In order to obviate this the funnels are to be reduced in height, and it is stated that this in some cases will amount to fifteen feet. The quantity of fuel consumed under the circumstances stated is about one-tenth of the total coal bunker capacity. Under normal conditions the coal consumption does not exceed to any appreciable extent that of other ships of the cruiser class. But it is considered that the excessive consumption required to produce a high rate of speed seriously impairs the value of these vessels in times of emergency. It would practically mean that under full steam, with forced draught, they would only be able to keep the sea for about a week. The ships as fighting units, apart from these conditions, are undoubtedly valuable additions to our fighting force, and it is confidently hoped that the professional officers of the Engineering Department at the Admiralty will be able to surmount the difficulty.

The River Company (Limited), Stokers' Works, Cambridge, have received orders from the Admiralty to supply three hundred tons of rivets per week for the next three years, the rivets to be delivered at the various Dockyards. It is thought, from the largeness of the order, that a busy time is contemplated in different Dockyards for a considerable time to come.

There will be a run of promotion in the higher ranks of the navy on February 26th, when Sir Edward Seymour becomes Admiral of the Fleet. The compulsory retirement for age among flag officers will be limited in extent in 1905; but several voluntary retirements are likely to take place. The names are mentioned of three officers who are said to be contemplating voluntary withdrawal. As yet, however, these reports require confirmation at the Admiralty.

It is a pity that the Admiralty should be resorting to temporary rank in all the commands in the near sea. Vice-Admirals Sir Arthur Wilson and Lord Charles Beresford, in command of the Channel and Mediterranean fleets respectively, are to have the rank of admiral, and Rear-Admiral May is to have the rank of vice-admiral. It would be much better to clear the decks so as to promote the younger men when it is desired to have at sea controlling the fleets. There are a number of vice-admirals who would retire, if the authorities would arrange with the Treasury to anticipate their promotion to full flag rank.

The death is announced at Folkestone of Captain John Henderson-Smith, R.N.K., at the age of 72. For more than a quarter of a century Captain Henderson-Smith was commander of His Majesty's ship *Worcester*, the Thames Nautical Training College.

A JAPANESE PROTEST.

The following letter, written by a Japanese, appeared in a South Australian paper: "You Australians make great efforts to trade. You Parliamentarians borrow large sums of money for the purpose of dredging harbours, building docks, wharves, breakwaters, light-houses, &c. You appoint commercial agents to the East, and then you pass legislation which deliberately insults the very people with whom you are making these efforts to trade. You give your children pennies to put into the Sunday school missionary boxes for the purpose of converting the heathen (and you class all the colored races under the category); but, when after they have been converted, you regard their presence as a degradation and a menace, and then you pass legislation which deliberately insults the very people with whom you are making these efforts to trade. All Christians to-day pray Thy Kingdom come. They will be done on earth as it is Heaven! Prophets (many of them colored men) have spoken of and looked forward to the time when 'the whole earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord.' There is not a professing Christian anywhere but must admit the inclusion of the heathen of every tribe and nation in the Gospel plan of salvation, which brings us to the remarkable position that the alien may enter Heaven, but may not enter Australia. Truly, the logic of the wonderful 'White Australia' business leads us to some strange conclusions. Good enough to dwell for a moment on the fact that the Christian, the Mohammedan, the Chinese, the Hindu, and the Buddhist, the spirit of just men made perfect, the glorious company of the apostles and prophets, the noble army of martyrs; but not good enough to dwell on the same continent with Mr. J. C. Watson and the Australian Labour Party."

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Hongkong, 27th December, 1904.

RUSSIAN REFORMERS.

Prince Troubetzkoi, President of the Moscow Zemstvo, has sent the following letter to Prince Sviatopolk Mirski, the Minister of the Interior:—

"Highly honoured Prince.—Your Excellency today receives an address from the Moscow Zemstvo to the Emperor. I, as president of this assembly, may of course be regarded as having authorised the consideration of the address, and I shall accept the responsibility for it. I have made no concealment of this and I make none now, although soon after the adoption of the address the Government published a communication. The object of this letter is to explain to you and to request you to report to the Emperor most humbly, what considerations prompted me to allow the Zemstvo to express its opinion, which I fully share.

"Russia is now passing through a period of anarchy and revolution. The present occurrences are not merely disturbances on the part of the youth of the country, but rather the reflection of the existing general condition of society. The present state of affairs is extremely dangerous for the whole of society, and particularly menacing to the sacred person of the Emperor. On that account it is the duty of every loyal subject to prevent such a disaster by every means in his power.

"A few days ago I had the happiness to appear before the Emperor, and as openly as I could to make a report to him on the present condition of society. I endeavored to make clear to the Emperor that what was now taking place was not a simple disturbance, but a revolution; and further to explain to him what was driving the Russian people into revolution, which it did not desire, and which His Imperial Majesty is in a position to avert. There is, however, only one way of doing so, and that is by the Emperor placing confidence in the nation and in the forces which the existing estates of the realm constitute.

"I am strongly convinced in my own mind that if the Emperor, having confidence in them, would only allow these forces to approach him, Russia would be relieved of all the terrors of a sanguinary revolution with which she is now threatened, and would support her Emperor, his autonomy, and his will. In view of the present condition of mind of all those who think with terror and awe of what has been set forth above, it is not in human power to deny them the possibility of making known to the Emperor the thoughts which are heavily oppressing and wringing every heart. It is not the Emperor to keep silent when the Fatherland is in danger. The present condition of those with families and children must not be forgotten. Although, as president of the Moscow Zemstvo, I am deeply guilty my conscience, as far as the Emperor is concerned, nevertheless remains clear and easy."

HERR FRIEDENTHAL.

This great pianist is on his way to Hongkong to give two recitals, one on Friday the 10th, and another on Monday the 13th, at the Peking and Tientsin Hotels. We believe we can without fear of contradiction say that no musician of Herr Friedenthal's standard has ever visited Tientsin before, and that the artist was appreciated from the first note to the last by the majority of the items on his programme were applauded on Monday night. The fact that a pianist of such high standard should have given a good concert here was in itself sufficiently remarkable, and the enthusiastic reception accorded number after number left no room for doubt that Tientsin, though small, is intensely discriminating, and there are few communities of its size (quicker to appreciate genuine art. It was immediately recognized that in Herr Friedenthal's playing musical technique and scientific study have not killed or cramped music's soul, a result which ensues only too frequently in the professional acquisition of a fine execution. There is nothing mechanical in Herr Friedenthal's performance.

MANILA.

Probably no other public improvement contemplated by the Commission interests the residents of Manila more than the plan to reclaim a large section of the bay opposite the Luneta, which will be added to that park. This improvement can be made at a comparatively small expenditure at the present time, due

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THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LD.,
Hongkong, 32nd November, 1904. [83]

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12 & 14, Queen's Road Central,
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FOUR-ROOMED HOUSE in Kowloon with joint use of Tennis Court. "KOWLOON."

Apply to—
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Hongkong, 18th January, 1905. [286]

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Nippon Yusen Kaisha,
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Apply to—
ABBATON V. APCAR & CO.,
45, Wyndham Street,
Hongkong, 10th January, 1905. [202]

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

A CUBAN INSECT TRAP—A HINT FOR THE HOME—GOOD-CHEER POWDERS—THE GREAT MEDICAL PUZZLE—A GAS-FIRE ECONOMIZER—AN INTERESTING PROBLEM—RADIUM LIGHT—WATER ANAESTHESIA—WINTER-MILKING ICE.

One of the most remarkable of insect catching plants seems to be a grass (*Cenchrus echinatus* Linn.) that is a great pest along the edges of Cuban cane-fields. With the beginning of the rains, says E. A. Schwarz in calling attention to this plant, great swarms of insects appear, and they are caught in enormous numbers in the flowering spikes of the grass. Even beetles so large that they cannot be easily held in the hand are retained, only a large earwig and a large bug being able to escape. The plant seems to derive no benefit whatever from its ruthless captures.

A new use for carborundum has been discovered in Germany. Two large gas retorts becoming very leaky, a paste of equal parts of carborundum and fireclay was applied to the still red-hot edges of the cracks, and in three minutes the retorts were receiving their usual charges of coal, subsequently proving quite sound. For repairing a cold object the carborundum may be mixed with one-third of its weight of water-glass instead of fireclay.

Powders for the temper are prescribed by Sir Lander Branton. As the irritability proceeding an attack of gout comes on he gives 20 grains of bicarbonate of potash with 10 to 20 grains of bromide of potassium, and for the irritability ensuing before a headache or caused by heart troubles he gives a few doses of potassium and salicylate of soda.

The recent nutrition experiments have shown that man utilizes about 96 per cent of the material and 91 per cent of the energy of his food. The steam engine, with an efficiency of ten per cent or less, is a poor machine by comparison.

Epilepsy, though known to Hippocrates 3,400 years ago and numbering its victims by millions, still remains one of the most mysterious and neglected diseases. It is estimated that not less than 150,000 living persons in the United States are epileptics, and they are no fewer elsewhere. The attacks may appear but a few times in a long life, or they may number hundreds and even thousands in twenty-four hours. There are four chief forms, viz.: (1) a sudden severe fit, with loss of consciousness and muscular control; (2) a mild fit, with partial unconsciousness; (3) a spasm in a single leg or arm or group of muscles; and (4) a temporary blank in the memory. Feels-mindedness usually follows epilepsy, insanity developing in fully 20 per cent of the cases.

Considering the oft-claimed relationship between genius and epilepsy, Dr. W. P. Spradling, a specialist in epilepsy, contends that the disease always impairs the mental powers, and that Caesar, Napoleon, Mohammed, Swedenborg and other great epileptics must have been affected when their strength was on the wane.

Radiant, the invention of two English engineers, is claimed to increase the efficiency of gas fires as remarkably as the incandescent mantle adds to the light. It is a product of the waste of chemical works, replaces asbestos or fire-clay balls, and causes the gas to burn brightly and completely, tending the heat. The material can be had in any quantity at no greater cost than fire-clay.

Whether matter undergoes any change of properties on being charged with electric current has been a subject of experiment. The results have been practically negative. Mr. Paul R. Heyl states that when carrying a heavy current the change in the tensile strength of iron cannot exceed half of one per cent, and the melting point of tin can hardly be changed two degrees.

A very infusible fire-brick, promising to serve many needs, is made by cementing quartz sand with magnesia, drying and carefully burning.

Some new and simple radium experiments have been described by Prof. Orazio Rebuffat, an Italian physicist. On rubbing a glass tube with wool in a medium containing a radium salt, a luminous glow followed the wool, and a glow also appeared when the finger was brought near the excited glass. Using a vacuum tube brought into connection with tube of radium salt, a brilliant glow appeared inside when the outside of the glass tube was rubbed with wool. This experiment, it is believed, makes it possible to demonstrate the production of emanations from radium mixtures of low grade, or feeble activity.

The action of water as an anaesthetic is illustrated in some recent cases brought to notice by Joseph Clements. In one case five hemorrhoids were injected with distilled water, when they were removed in fifteen minutes without pain, and the patient at once returned home. In another case two fistulas were opened and scraped, one after the injection of water, and the other without it. The last operation was exceedingly painful. The action of the water is declared to be the same as that of solutions of cocaine or other drug—a filling of the interstices of the tissues, thus temporarily suspending intercellular respiration, and paralyzing the local nerve centers.

The melting of glaciers in winter has called for explanation. Dr. R. von Londonfeld, of Prague, believes that the earth's interior heat cannot account for more than three to six per cent of the effect, but that the principal cause of the melting is the heat from the work of the ice in descending. The pressure of winter snows

would probably somewhat increase the internal melting.

Aside from errors of refraction, W. P. Rivers finds the eyes of all races and classes of men to be practically the same. The apparent superiority of savages is attributed entirely to practice and education, with familiarity with the surroundings.

GARRISON ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,
HONGKONG, 8th February, 1905.

GARRISON ORDERS.—Chimney Sweeping.—No. 1. The sweeping of chimneys and flues will be carried out as follows:—
"Attention is called to Para 343 King's Regulations. Army Form F. 720 should be completed as soon as possible after completion to the Officer in Charge. The G.R.E. will detail a reliable man to accompany the sweep up to take down stove pipes, &c., where necessary."

BUILDINGS & CO. DATE. HOUR.
Murray Barracks ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
District Military Prison ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Head Quarters House ... 15-2-05 7 a.m.
Kennedy Road Married Quarters ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
1 to 4 Bowen Road ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
7 and 8 Queen's Gardens ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
A and B Blocks Queen's Road ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
C Block Queen's Road ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
E Block Queen's Road ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Fletcher Street ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Wellington Barracks ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Victoria Barracks ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
East Block Married Quarters ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Garrison Barracks ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Mount Austin Barracks ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
North Point Barracks ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Lycam Barracks and Batteries ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Kowloon Dock Battery ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
St. John's Barracks & Batteries ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Belvedere and Victoria Barracks ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Hospital Ship "Neptune" ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Whitfield Barracks ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Station Hospital Kowloon ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Kowloon Point House ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
4 Lycam Villas ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
Gin Club 1011 Barracks ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
42 to 38 An Tin Road ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.
G 1 Block Queen's Road ... 15-2-05 6 a.m.

Leave—No. 2. Leave of absence on private affairs to the neighbouring countries has been granted to the undermentioned officers:—110th Mahatras Light Infantry: Lieut. L. P. Branson from 10th to 14th February, 1905. Lieut. G. E. P. Davis from 10th to 14th February, 1905.

Schools—No. 4. The Adults' School will be closed on the 8th and 9th inst.

Examination Officers for Promotion.—No. 5. Information has been received from the Director of Military Education in India that officers of the Indian Army will not be examined in Law and Organisation under War Office rules, therefore officers presenting themselves for examination in subject (d) will not be examined in (d) and (d1).

Arrival—No. 22. One private 2nd Royal West Kent Regiment arrived on the 6th inst. per s.s. *Gregory* from Calcutta on transfer from 1st Bn. Sussex Regiment.

By Order.
A. A. CHICHESTER, Major,
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Their origin and their success is most interesting. Some years ago Chas. Ford, an eminent Australian scientist, discovered a purely vegetable substance which has the peculiar property of acting on the human system in exactly the same way as nature's animal substance, bile. After much careful study he combined this substance with some eight other vegetable ingredients, and then concentrated the product so obtained until a suitable dose could be compressed into the space offered by a small bean. This medicine, made up in the form of a "bean for the bile," soon became widely known as "Bile Beans." There was simply revolutionised the old method of poisoning, bismuth, or mercury dosing, and of starving sufferers from liver trouble and indigestion by placing them on liquid diet. Bile Beans do not give temporary relief only, and leave the patient weakened, like the out-of-date, so-called remedies of forty or fifty years ago, containing probably aces, mercury, and other harmful drugs.

Bile Beans, without the slightest discomfort, prompt the liver and digestive organs to act in nature's normal way, leaving these organs strengthened and stimulated.

They produce a gentle action on the bowels, curing or preventing constipation, cleansing the stomach, and ridding the system of all impurities. Do not be misled by claims of half a hundred pills in the box, where probably four to six constitute a dose, and the doses cannot be discontinued. One Bile Bean is one dose. They can be discontinued after the cure is effected; they are purely vegetable; they do not contain any harmful drugs and they are the safest family medicine.

Bile Beans are a certain cure for indigestion, debility, biliousness, constipation, piles, nervousness, anaemia, female ailments, weakness, colic, chills, neuralgia, rheumatism, pains in the back, sleeplessness, loss of appetite, congestion of the liver, headache, flatulence, pimples, skin eruptions, and a host of ailments having a common origin in impurity of the blood—a general congestion of the system, and loss of vital force. Obtainable from all chemists and medicine vendors. Price 75 cents (Mex.) per bottle. [80-6]

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To illustrate the vast scope of the work the following facts are submitted for consideration:—
Chambers' Vocabulary contains about 16,000 Chinese characters and Medhurst's English and Chinese Dictionary about 14,000 whilst this work contains more than 50,000 English words and upwards of 900,000 Chinese characters. Again, despite all the grammars and other elementary works as yet published, the student of this difficult language absolutely requires examples to display the various applications and equivalents of different words which have one general meaning. Of these examples this work contains more than five times as many as any other Dictionary hitherto published.

For practical purposes the arrangement of the work is so complete that a reference to its pages enables a person who understands English to communicate effectively with natives, who understand nothing but Chinese. In this respect the work will be found indispensable to all Europeans residing in China, and to the natives themselves it explains subjects fully with which they are, indeed, of them are perfectly acquainted. To parties resident in England and interested in China it cannot but be invaluable occasionally. It comprises upwards of two thousand large Euroto pages.

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